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THE
PLOTTER

CLACKAMAS COUNTY AREA T/S
USERS GROUP
NEWS LETTER
****
VOLUME 7   **   NUMBER 1
******
JANUARY 1989

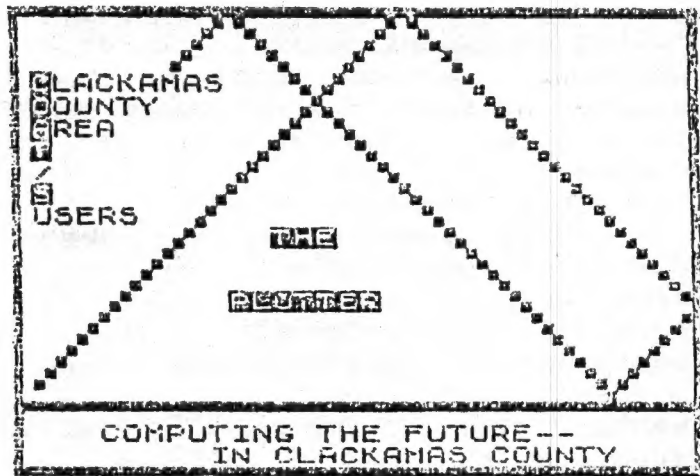**************************************

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MEETING

The JANUARY meeting will be:

Friday, January 13, 1989
Meeting room open at 6:30 P.M.
Meeting starts at 7:30 P.M.
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WHAT YOU WILL FIND IN THIS ISSUE:

COMPUTING THE FUTURE--
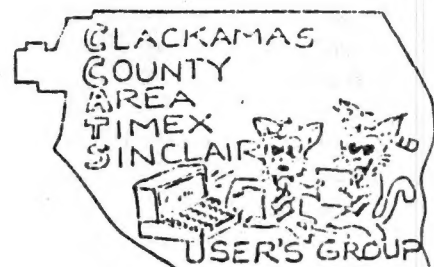IN CLACKAMAS COUNTY

EDITORIAL
by Dick Wagner

Elections for the CCAT/S 1989 year are past with promise of continued strong guidance. We were fortunate in having a fine group of nominations to choose from.

It looks very much like we continue to have a core of dedicated TS users about which some members come and go. Personally, this writer believes we could keep more members by maintaining an orderly meeting with responses from the floor on recognition from the presiding officer. Perhaps current practice makes for a more friendly atmospher but it deprives many from hearing replys, or even keeping track of what is going on. Private discussion also cause additional confusion.

It is understandable that visitors may not see that serious information can be diseminated in this atmospher of a friendly club. Lets see if we can maintain a serious meeting and get the business out of the way so members so inclined can socialize later.

CLACKAMAS
COUNTY
AREA
TIMEX
SINCLAIR
USER'S GROUP

Another irksome disturbance is having equipment operating during the business period. Monitors have a simple device called an ON-OFF switch. Lets keep them in OFF mode during a meeting. As I recall, this was agreed to at one time.

With a quick business meeting out of the way there is plenty of time to paricipate in discussions of personal computer problems, observing equipment in operation, and procuring material from our friendly local vendor. The meeting room is reserved from 6:30 to 10:00 PM so there should be ample time for all of this. The room is almost always open by 6:30 so there is ample time to set up equipment before the meeting starts at 7:30-7:45.

It seems that we are always taking chairs and tables out from under people but the room must be cleared out on time. Please remember that this room is for free and that we must remain on good standing with Far West S&L if we expect to continue to use it. If members wish to occupy the room later than 10:00 PM then I need to know to set up the reservation each month.

SECRETARY'S SECRETS

by Jack Armstrong

Chairman Mike Carver opened the December meeting at 7:40 and a discussion developed concerning awards to be given to notable members for their contribution to the welfare of the group in one way or another. The discussion touched upon who would be considered; why they would deserve an award; when it would be done; and who would choose and how that would be implemented. The subject was tabled for future discussion as Mike suggested a committee to do the honors. The regular meeting in July was voted to be a dinner meeting. D asked to have the last minutes reflect the fact that the C/PM meet was a "swap" meet. So noted. Then the conversation developed into a general discussion of some of the new developments of the computing world. It was noted that Powell books has a good section on Sinclair machines.

Rod Gowen informed the group that the BBS he has had going for so long crashed and burned. All is not lost as he has instituted an agreement on Remember When BBS for a space for us on Base 7. The number is 652-5803 and the settings are: 8, 1, and 0. It runs on Opus Software With Bob Curry as Sysop. It will take 300 or 1200 baud; also X-modem. You can both Upload and Download. Rod suggested we make donations to them to help defray expenses in appreciation for their kindness.

Duane Hewitt reported his troubles in downloading 24K and that he had finally managed to cure the problem. He uses his modem on a frequent and regular basis, so if anyone needs information or help, he is the one to contact. Unfortunately, he is on his yearly trek to Quartzite, Arizona.

Mike reported on an invitation to us to attend a computer fair in Carrolton Maryland. It is being sponsored by our almost-namesakes CATS. The accomodations will be at the Howard Johnson's at $62/day. The entrance fee will be $5 for 1 day, $7 for 2 days with a $17 cost for the opening banquet Friday, May 5th. The Fair goes through Saturday and Sunday the 6th and 7th. The group then discussed the fact that there is a greater concentration of Sinclair users on the Eastern seaboard and other Eastern states as that is where Timex introduced the little beast and spent most of their promotion efforts.

The club election ballots were collected and they will be finalized with a count on the 15th. By the time this issue of the Plotter comes to the members, the new slate will be official. Check elsewhere in this issue for results.

Rod announced that he has obtained the rights/stock of two dealers who are now inactive: EZ Key and Foote Software. He also noted that Knighted Computers was sold to WMJ Systems who will have their inventory. Mike had two honored visitors introduce themselves: Alan and Laura Hennig, who have a ZX 81 and got info about us several years ago at the OMSI display. There were comments about Ed Frye's display last month and he responded that he will do another

demo later on: he has added more to his gear. Mike brought up a question about Sincware and Tim Woods responded that he had the mailing list. He explained that Sincware and Quantum Levels have combined and that a new issue is possibly in the works.

Ed Frye stated that he has a disk with public domain software for the QL and will make copies for those requesting it. During the conversation Harvey Taylors Shareware was mentioned--Q Link available. Rod brought videos of The Computer Program which is basic computer info and will bring more at subsequent meetings; they are 1/2 hour programs that he will show. PC mag was mentioned for its Sept. article on Sir Clive. Question Time came with Gaylen asking about the lost round robin tapes and that some machine code he needs is on one of the tapes and Bill Rich replied that he has a copy of the missing material. He has LPRINT CAT which gives the length, start, code length and start. Also a menu/dir for cassette tapes which reads the headers on the tapes. INPUT A$ was the subject of the next question and Mike's reply was that the primary function was to eliminate the quotes for a string input and it makes a program harder to break. During this discussion, it was noted that the Larken NMI can be used to break a program: hit the NMI button and then "A". Ed warned that the QL Tech Guide/Service Manual has some bugs. Check with him for the information. He also revealed that he has made up a keyboard for the QL that has extra keys with added features. D asked the location of Wacky Willy: SW Stark and 12th. They have 3 minute tapes for 25 cents each.

Ed Frye told the group about Cascade Surplus Elec. Which will be conducting a big sale on Jan. 13/14 and 15. They are near Denver & Interstate in North Portland. Rod had calendars for everyone that he produced on his Headstart computer. The dues for membership were discussed and Mike explained that $10 is due in Jan. and the $10 balance by Mar. Rod reported that we have 17 more new subscribers during the last 3 months. Bill Rich, while acknowleg-

ing Duane's help, has made comprehensive changes to the Menu program for the Larken system. It's an Autostart as usual, but it has overall categories and will load from any media one has programmed in, including cassette tape, A&J, Cartridge and any of several disks. When one chooses a program, it prompts as to which disk (or other media) one is to place in which drive and automatically loads. Rod announced a new System disk for Larken use. The meeting was over at 9:15.

BITS & BYTES
by: ROD GOWEN

Heard any TS related news lately? Did you get any information in the mail from other users, user groups, or vendors that may be of interest to our readers? If so, why not share it with us? We need all of the help that we can get. Please send any info that you might have to: Rod Gowen, C/O CCAT/S, 1419 1/2 7th Street, Oregon City, OR 97045, or, phone in at: 503/655-7484, NOON - 10 PM weekdays. I know that the entire user group will appreciate it!

KNIGHTED COMPUTERS-

has sold all of its remaining TS stock to WMJ Data Systems. Bill Johnson, of WMJ, said that the Knighted guys were real heavy into IBM clones and were finished with TS. We are sure sorry to see another fine, long-time supporter go by the wayside, but we are sure that Bill will carry on the fine line of s/w that Knighted was selling. You might also remember when E. ARTHUR BROWN sold off his TS product line. Well, it was WMJ who ended up with the lion's share of that company's stock as well.

TIME DESIGNS MAGAZINE-

for SEP/OCT is *FINALLY* in my hands! That means that real soon now you, too, will be scouring its pages for long awaited TS information! It is FULL of great info! We see that SYD WYNCOOP is back to answer all of your TS2068 programming questions and pass along a few tips. We see MIKE DE SOSA is continueing his reviews of QL products. We found a LOT of NEW advertisers as well as the older ones. If you are not yet a regular subscriber of this fine mag, we suggest that you do so AT ONCE! To do

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so, just call TDM at 503/824-2658 any-
time.

REMEMBER WHEN BBS-

is now the "place to meet" for all
bbsers in the NW. The Sysop, BOB CURRIE,
is glad to have us use his BBS. It is
running on an IBM clone with RBBS s/w
and, for the moment, a 30MB hard drive.
I am asking all who want to make use of
the BBS to send a small donation to Bob
to help support the venture and so that
we can upgrade to at least 70MB soon. We
have a message conference area called "S
INCLAIR USERS UNITE!" and a TS upload/
download file area, #7. Why not check it
out? Call: 503/652-5803 24 hrs/ 8/1/N.

NEW OFFICERS-

will take their places at the January
meeting. We already know for certain
that the Chairman for 1988 will retain
his post for another year, welcome back,
MIKE CARVER! We also want to congratul-
ate our new Vice-Chairman, MERLIN
AAYMOND. As for the new Secretary, we
are still uncertain as it is only 1 vote
apart at this point. It will be either
Jack Armstrong or Betty Schaffler. By
the time you read this, the post will be
filled, one way or the other. We wish
all of our new elected officers GOOD
LUCK in the year to come! Let's keep
this group GOING and GROWING!

RMG ENTERPRISES-

reports that they have just purchased
all remaining stock from another TS
dealer, E-Z KEY, and will soon have it
cataloged and ready for sale. Keep
watching your monthly flyers for details
and GREAT buys! WHAT'S THAT!?! You don't
get monthly flyers from RMG??? Well, I
can tell you how and it won't cost you a
thing!

SNUG-LARKEN LIBRARY-

has been set up in Washington state. We
received a call from TIM WARD of VISTA
user group telling us that he had been
named official Snug Larken Disk PD
librarian. C'mon you Larken users! Let's
get it going! If you want the address,
just let me know. We want this endeavor
to succeed!

SEE YOU NEXT TIME!.........

MODEMS REVISITED
by Duane Hewitt

Last summer I gave a demo on
using the modem with our Sinclair
computers. I know it is hard to
remember how things were done on a
demo so lets take another look.

First of all try not to be
afraid of them, they won't bite even
if some of them are Byte-Back type
(sorry). You will need a modem
program of some type or other. I use
MTERM with LOADER V to do my land
line communication. When I am on
PACKET radio I use SPECTERM 64. It
will give you 64 column and will also
let you do 300 baud. Remember, the
2050 modem will only do 300 baud. No
problem, most all BBS's will do 300
baud. Plug the 2050 modem into the
back port of your computer, I am
talking 2068 but you can do it the
same way on the 1500, 1000, or ZX 81,
as long as the program is for your
particular model.

OK, after plugging in the modem
load the program and it will come up
with a menu if you are using LOADER
V. Choose "1" which will get you into
MTERM. Hit ENTER until you see the
large menu. Read this menu several
times so you understand what the
different letters will give you. If
you are going to put in some tele-
phone numbers so you have auto dial
of your BBS choose "C". This will
give you a menu with several letters
which will be the choices for your
BBS's. Enter "A". Now you will have
another menu. It will want to know
several things about the BBS that you
are entering in the auto dial list.
First enter "A" which is the choice
to enter the name of the BBS. Next
enter "B" which is for the telephone
number. Now you will want to be sure
the main menu shows the correct
parameters for this particular BBS
such as 8-1 and none, because when
you enter "C" choice on the BBS
information menu it will enter the
parameters as on the main menu. Go
back to main menu with the ENTER key
and repeat for the next BBS.

TERMINAL MODE: to enter terminal
mode start with the main menu. Push
ENTER key once or twice as required
when you are in terminal mode. There
will be a blank screen with a curser
in the upper left corner.

You can also dial the BBS number with the phone. Then when you hear its tones connect to it. This is done by getting the modem program into the terminal mode, then press SHIFT & ENTER. The bottom left of the screen will show "MODEM CMD?" and "M". Dial the telephone number of the BBS. When you hear tones press the ENTER key. Soon the screen will show "CONNECT" and the cursor will return to the upper left of the screen. The BBS will start printing on your screen. Answer the questions the BBS asks. Be prepared to give a password after which don't forget what is was or you will or you will not be able to sign on again.

You may find that the letters come up on the screen double, that is two of each as "AASS TTHHIISS". Don't worry, go back to the main menu and change the "DUP" from half to full.

Now lets get to it and start doing some telecommunicating. I don't have a BBS telephone number for you in Portland, but you will find it in the BITS & BYTES column for this month. When you log on there will be a section of the BBS that will list all of the boards in town. HAVE FUN!

LARKEN LINES

by: ROD GOWEN

We are back again! Christmas is just around the corner and I am sure you are all getting your lists of Larken items you want posted all around the house as gentle hints!

MAXCOMM!-

That's the name given the new TERMINAL/BBS software package from LARRY KENNY of LARKEN ELECTRONICS. Now in the final testing stages, this should be a great new addition to the list of available telecommunications softare. According to Larry, this will operate as either a BBS or as standard terminal s/w. If you are running a BBS with it and someone wants to "Chat", you press a key and you are in FULL TERM mode. It will operate at both 300 and 1200 baud (with an RS232 and Hayes compatible modem) and will NOT drop characters at the 1200 baud rate.

It will have direct "dump to disk" download. Many more features which I will report on as soon as I get my first copy to test out. It will be available from Larken, Ed Grey Enterprises as well as yours truly, RMG Enterprises. At a price of only $25 plus shipping, it will be hard to beat! *KEEP WATCHING!*

I am going to pass on a MENU DRIVER program this month. This program was based on an original program from George Chambers in Toronto. It was then modified by myself and passed on to James Snyder in California. He then revamped it more, returned it to me, I did a bit more on it and now I present it to you, our loyal Larken fans so that you may redo it more! I hope you can learn some techniques from the listing as well as being able to make use of the actual program. There are instructions built into the program. After you type in the program, you can press the appropriate key and a set of help pages will appear.

See you next time!

```
   1 REM 8&16 MENU
   3: BORDER NOT PI: PAPER NOT PI
: INK NOT PI: CLS :
   4 CLEAR VAL "65535"
   6 PRINT AT SGN PI,SGN PI; PAPE
R VAL "2";"      PROGRAM SELECTION
MENU      "''
   8 POKE VAL "23658",VAL "8": LE
T x=VAL "8"
   9 RESTORE VAL "100"
  10 FOR n=SGN PI TO x
  20 READ a$: PRINT "  ";CHR$ (n+
VAL "64");" - ";a$
  25 PRINT
  30 NEXT n
  35 PLOT  INK VAL "4";NOT PI,NOT
 PI: DRAW VAL "255",NOT PI: DRAW
NOT PI,VAL "175": DRAW VAL "-255"
,NOT PI: DRAW NOT PI,VAL "-175":
PLOT SGN PI,SGN PI: DRAW VAL "253
",NOT PI: DRAW NOT PI,VAL "173":
DRAW VAL "-253",NOT PI: DRAW NOT
PI,VAL "-173": INK VAL "7"
  38 PLOT VAL "9",VAL "20": DRAW
VAL "237",NOT PI: DRAW NOT PI,VAL
 "135": DRAW VAL "-237",NOT PI: D
RAW NOT PI,VAL "-135"
  50 PRINT AT VAL "20",SGN PI; PA
PER VAL "2";"         "; FLASH SGN
PI;"Press A to ";CHR$ (x+VAL "64"
);" only"; FLASH NOT PI;"         "
```

```
  70 LET n$=INKEY$
  80 IF N$<"A" OR N$>CHR$ (X+VAL
"64") THEN  GO TO VAL "70"
  90 GO TO (CODE n$-VAL "64")*VAL
"200"
 100 DATA "TITLE #1","TITLE #2","
TITLE #3","TITLE #4", "TITLE #5",
"TITLE #6","TITLE #7","RETURN TO
INSTRUCTIONS"
 200 RANDOMIZE USR VAL "100": LOA
D "PROGRAM #1"
 400 RANDOMIZE USR VAL "100": LOA
D "PROGRAM #2"
 600 RANDOMIZE USR VAL "100": LOA
D "PROGRAM #3"
 800 RANDOMIZE USR VAL "100": LOA
D "PROGRAM #4"
1000 RANDOMIZE USR VAL "100": LOA
D "PROGRAM #5"
1200 RANDOMIZE USR VAL "100": LOA
D "PROGRAM #6"
1400 RANDOMIZE USR VAL "100": LOA
D "PROGRAM #7"
1600 GO TO VAL "4000"
1610 STOP
2000 REM **INKEYS PROGRAM**
2050 INK VAL "4": PRINT AT VAL "2
1",NOT PI;"PRESS ANY KEY TO CONTI
NUE": INK 0
2055 IF INKEY$="" THEN  GO TO VAL
 "2055"
2060 IF INKEY$<>"" THEN  GO TO VA
L "2060"
2065 CLS
2070 PAUSE VAL "15"
2075 RETURN
3000 REM **INSTRUCTIONS**
3001 CLS
3002 CLEAR VAL "65535"
3003 INK VAL "7": PRINT "  ***PRO
GRAM SELECTION MENU***"
3004 PRINT : PRINT
3005 PRINT : PRINT "This menu lis
ts from 1 to 8 diskprogram titles
 and LOADs the oneselected by ent
ering a letter."
3006 PRINT : PRINT "(For a menu l
isting from 1 to 16disk program t
itles see optionalinstructions)"
3007 PRINT : PRINT "To see the me
nu format press anykey."
3008 PRINT : PRINT : PRINT "** NO
TE ** To return to these  instru
ctions select letter ""H""  in th
e menu."
3010 GO SUB VAL "2050"
3015 RUN SGN PI
4000 PRINT "To modify the program
 to suit  individual choices, th
e lines  which follow MUST be ch
anged:"
```

```
4002 PRINT : PRINT "Suggest a cop
y of this program  be made before
 any line changes are made. To so
so now:"
4003 PRINT : PRINT : PRINT "Enter
""RUN 9999""."
4004 INK VAL "2": PRINT : PRINT :
PRINT "After program is SAVEd, e
nter   ""RUN 4006"""
4005 STOP
4007 PRINT : PRINT "
LINE 100 "
4008 PRINT : PRINT : PRINT "1. En
ter program titles (Maximum   of
8) in place of examples      i.e.
, TITLE #1, etc.."
4010 PRINT : PRINT "2. If less th
an 8 titles enter    "" "" (BLAN
KS) for remaining      titles."
4012 PRINT : PRINT "3. DELETE ""R
ETURN TO INSTRUCT-     IONS"" AND
 ENTER TITLE OR "" ""."
4033 PRINT : PRINT : PRINT "NOTE:
 Title does not have to be file n
ame used for ""SAVING"" OR  ""LOA
DING"" in accordance with     LKDO
S."
4035 GO SUB VAL "2050"
4040 PRINT : PRINT : PRINT "
 LINES 200 thru 1600 "
4045 PRINT : PRINT : PRINT "1. En
ter one program file name     in
place of exhale (Program     #1,
etc.) for LINES 200 thru    1600.
"
4047 PRINT : PRINT "2. If less th
an 8 programs enter    ""REM"" in
appropriate lines."
4049 PRINT : PRINT "3. DELETE ""G
OTO 4000"" in LINE 1600 and ENTER
 program file     name or REM."
4055 PRINT : PRINT "NOTE: Program
 file names MUST bein accordance
with ""LKDOS""          instructions.
"""
4060 GO SUB VAL "2050"
4065 PRINT : PRINT "   Optional i
nstructions for        16 disk p
rogram titles"
4070 PRINT : PRINT "To change the
 menu to a listing of 16 program
titles perform theprevious instru
ction. In         addition:"
4075 PRINT : PRINT " 1. Change X
to 16 in LINE 8."
4078 PRINT : PRINT " 2. Delete LI
NE 25."
4080 PRINT : PRINT " 3. Add data
LINE 105 and enter     8 addition
al program titles     or "" ""(BL
ANKS)."
```

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```
4083 PRINT : PRINT " 4. Add LINES
 1800 thru 3200        (In increm
ents of 200) and       enter progr
ams names or REM."
4085 GO SUB VAL "2050"
4100 PRINT : PRINT "   ADDITIONAL
 INSTRUCTIONS"
4102 PRINT : PRINT : PRINT "1. Af
ter making the changes      DEL
ETE program LINES 2000      to 9
999 by entering:"
4103 PRINT : PRINT "    delete 200
0,9999"
4105 PRINT : PRINT : PRINT "2. To
 make the menu an AUTOSTART   pro
gram enter PROGRAM LINE:"
4110 PRINT : PRINT "   9999 CLEAR
 28400: RANDOMIZE        USR 10
2:GOTO 1"
4200 STOP
9999 RANDOMIZE USR VAL "100": SAV
E "816MNU.B1"
```

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Our TS world continues to change. Changes are taking place that will please some, discourage others. The last issue of UPDATE! magazine is an example. This is Bill Jones' largest issue with a fair percentage of space being devoted to the QL computer. I hear this has some readers upset as they thought they had a 2068 magazine.

It so happens that Bill is learning the ins and outs of the QL and is writing articles based on his experiences (and frustrations). Also a fair amount of QL material is being provided by various writers, along with 2068 material. Editors are dependent on writers who choose their own subject material and these writers are covering subjects that are of interest to them, and of course subjects about which they have some knowledge. As long as Bill controls the magazine content I am sure most issues will be well rounded on coverage of the 2068, QL, and Z88.

Which brings me to the following: UPDATE! magazine has been offered to the SNUG organization as their official magazine in place of a news letter. The idea is that a good subscription base (about 500 at this time) will give the organization a good start, plus a well received magazine format will give a good image from the beginning.

I understand the offer requires SNUG officers to produce a magazine with a minimum of 50 pages for at least the duration of the subscription year. There will have to be some procedure for continuing the 1988-89 subscription for those who do not wish to become SNUG members. I wonder if the magazine will continue to be available on a regular subscription basis?
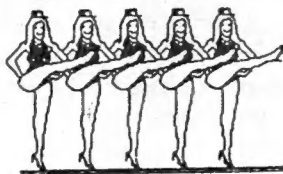
If the deal goes thru Bill will continue to be a major writer. I have come to the conclusion that he likes to write and his magazine has been his forum. So, we can expect the magazine to change to match the organization's needs and wishes.

Our annual election of 1989 officers turned out to be a record of sorts. We have 22 members (1988) and received response from 20 members. Two members do not live in the Portland area and one of them turned in a ballot. This is about a 91% response.

For readers not acquainted with our voting method, we send out ballots with our December news letter mailing. Ballots are received by mail or turned in at the December meeting. A tally is kept of voters names. The election was firmed up at this meeting for 2 of the 3 officers as of that date all but 3 members had voted. A ballot was received by the December 15 deadline that cinched the Secretary's position. Officers for 1989 are: Chairman, Michael Carver, Vice Chairman, Merlin Raymond, and Secretary, Betty Schaffler. Mike and Betty are from the Portland TS user group that combined with CCAT/s. Other volunteer positions are shown on Page 1.

Systems will break down as I can personally vouch for. My Oliger DOS IF went out, probably due to static electicity from the carpeting in the room I use for computering. Mailing lists, back files, and my faithful MSRIPT WP have been untouchable for producing THE PLOTTER. Lucky that I had purchased a QL that is now being used for this purpose. Fortunately I had printed mailing lists to work from. Now if some one comes up with a QL/2068 compatability program it would be simple to access some disks.

Now that we have
your attention...

A most welcome donation of $100.00 came in the other day to help defray the expenses of the North West Computer Fair that were were incurred by RMG Enterprises and Time Designs Magazine. Readers will recall that expenses exceeded income by a considerable amount. Our USER GROUP was also involved in the financial aspects of the project.

Members agreed in 1987 to raise 1988 membership fees to $20.00 in anticipation of extra expenses. This generated about $100.00. This year (1988) members again agreed to the same increase for 1989 with the overage going to RMG and TDM. Due to our small membership this method of assessment will again produce only about $100.00.

We feel most fortunate to receive this donation as it will come close to meeting the needs to pay off all extra expenses this year. The donor's request for anonymity will be respected. We wish this person a most Happy New Year.

Graphics courtesy of Knitting Machine News and Views, and Huguette Senger, Distributor.

CCAT/S
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Oregon city, OR 97045

(place label here)